

# URBANA UNION.

WEDNESDAY EVENING, APRIL 2, 1862.



THE UNION OF HEARTS—THE UNION OF HANDS;  
THE UNION OF STATES—THE UNION OF LAWS;  
THE UNION OF LIVES—THE UNION OF DEATHS;  
AND THE PLAN OF OUR UNION FOREVER!

## SALUTATORY.

The Publisher of the URBANA UNION issues this first number, without previous announcement, as a Newspaper for the people of Champaign county. The present number is distributed, without charge to those who may receive it; the future numbers will be sent only to those who shall have ordered it as subscribers. For some weeks the back numbers can be had by new subscribers.

The price is placed at ONE DOLLAR a year, payable in advance. As this rate the proprietor cannot afford to employ collecting agents, and at this rate—less than two cents a week—it is cheaper to buy than to borrow.

The paper is not in the interest of any party, nor is it meant to be fettered. It will have very distinct opinions on all public questions connected with government, whether Union, State or County; and in the expression of opinions it will have but one guide—a strict adherence to law. It will support the Constitution and the Laws without regard to platforms or to party dogma. Fidelity in office will, always, be commended and supported; peculation and abuse will be steadily opposed; and economy in public affairs insisted on. The paper does not rely upon professions but upon practice, and its course will be best known by a reference to its future columns. Such a reference will show that it will not be the mere repeater of telegrams from Washington, tinged by a special agent to suit a purpose; nor will it be found seeking to maintain itself by perquisites drawn from the County Treasury.

## MCLELLAN.

There has been a senseless, if not a dishonest, clamor raised against this officer, for "outcamping" the enemy on the Potomac, and for letting the rebel army escape from Manassas, without the glory of a bloody battle. A certain kind of orators and editors, who stay at home and clamor at ease, and a kind of camp followers called letter writers, are vehement and sorrowful about "quaker guns" and "deceptive earth-works."

The Battle of Bull Run was fought on the 21st July—and fought with great ability, on the part of McDowell, but lost from the utter incapacity of Quarter-Masters—Commissionaries and pleasure-seeking Colonels—who prevented the battle being fought on the 20th July, as was intended.

In this conjuncture, McClellan was ordered to Washington. He had been suddenly raised from a private station—as Superintendent of a Railway—to be Major General of Ohio Volunteers, and next to be Major General of the United States Army. He was summoned to defend the Capital against hostile invasion—to raise a new army—to dispel the gloom of discomfiture, and to organize success—for the Nation demanded success.

This was on the first of August, and the law for raising an army of 500,000 men had not been in force ten days, and yet there seems to have been men who expected that army to take the field in full panoply, and skillfully perfect for advance into the Southern States, before summer was over!

The new General was unremittently active but he was provokingly silent. He would neither consult unauthorized advisers, nor repel detraction. But his army grew in numbers and learned to be handled in masses, while great results were otherwise achieved. It was a masterly triumph to hold the enemy in check and prevent an advance on Washington, until an advance became impossible. It was a masterly triumph to hold the enemy in force, awaiting attack, and undergoing exhaustion, while arrangements were made for the investment of the whole Southern frontier—for the seizure of New Orleans—the defence of Kentucky and Missouri, and for the final descent of the Mississippi; and it was a masterly power of arrangement to advance these lines of attack in such combined order, as to compel a division of the enemy's forces, and thus weakening his power. This grand combination required months of time for its completion and simultaneous action, winter must be passed to permit this action. But now it is every where at work. The Potomac Army will traverse Virginia, and rescue it; the Barnside Army, from the east, will cut the line of retreat; the Tennessee army, under Buell, will do the like from the West; Butler will assail New Orleans from the Gulf; and the forces of Halleck will descend the river from Tennessee.

But there are men who will not be content with regaining the marts of commerce and restoring the supremacy of our Laws—they must have bloody vengeance and abundant hanging. Under a pretended zeal for an earnest prosecution of this war, they clamor for driving our armies forward into the insurgent country, but with a real purpose of putting

an end to slavery. And these are the persons who have clamored for the removal of McClellan. And the time they choose for the consummation of their meditated outrage is the moment of the onward march, when they know that all is ready for success; and when they think that they can reap the fruits of his patient toil, his skill and forecast.

## The Rebel States and Restoration.

The President of the United States has appointed a Military Governor for the State of Tennessee, to aid in the restoration of Law and civil rule. This wise and timely act shows the President's accurate knowledge of his duties under the Constitution, and averts all the evils which would attend the wild projects conceived by some members of Congress, who have proposed to create what they are pleased to call "Territorial Governments," for what they are further pleased to call the "Territory once occupied by certain States." These attempts on the part of Congress, to legislate for the restoration of governments, and to adjudicate the State governments to the forfeited is a "vicious intromission" into a case not within their granted powers. It belongs to the President alone to decide when insurrection exists, and for its suppression, he, as the highest preserver of the peace, has control of the Army and Navy, to enable him to execute the laws. When he shall have dispersed the insurgents, and retrieved the disturbed jurisdiction, in analogy to the laws of war applicable to the case of a conquered country, he places a Military Governor in control, to administer the laws of the proper country as they stood before the act of taking control. Having thus regained possession, we are remitted to our elder title, so that we hold by right and not by force. The people of a regained State being under allegiance from which they could not be absolved without consent, and the United States being under an obligation to guarantee to each State, a republican form of government, there must be submission on the one side and protection on the other; and as the several States, where insurrection has been suppressed having already such proper forms of republican government, there remains to be done nothing but to call upon the people to resume their proper functions of self government. The Military Governor has power by proclamation to order new elections by the people, of all officers and agents according to their own constitution and laws, and he has power to protect the people in the exercise of their duties. Every man that was a citizen is still a citizen, and to such protection every man is entitled. The people will thus elect a new Legislature and new Executive officers; the Legislature will provide for the election of Members of Congress choose Senators for the United States; and this being done, the action of Republican Government is again restored. The Union Government will already have reinstated its courts, its custom Houses, and Post Offices, and so long as prudence shall dictate the necessity of it, will maintain the presence of military power, to sustain the respective governmental actions, and prevent the occurrence of new outbreaks. If the people of any State shall be so persistently rebellious as to refuse to discharge their duty as citizens, and resume their proper self government, they will remain under the administration of a Military Governor, in all their police, and in the holding of judicial courts for civil cases. Thus will it be shown that the very ample powers of our Government, wisely executed within the strict pale of law, are sufficient for its maintenance and preservation against every assault upon it, whether from within or from without.

## Street-Corner Generals.

THE National Intelligence, in an article on "military criticisms," says: "Whoever listens attentively to the criticisms pronounced on the corners of our streets, or published in the columns of the political press, in view of recent military movements and events, can hardly fail to come to the conclusion that the country at present has, in the 'cool sequestered valleys' of private life, very many able Generals without commands, and in actual service on 'the tented field' many commands without able Generals." Our Street-Corner Generals have lately examined the case of Gen. McClellan, and have decided to remove him for permitting the grand "skedaddle" from Manassas. They are also considering the cases of Generals Halleck and Buell, for allowing the same disorderly practice at Bowling Green and Columbus. Which of our distinguished fellow townsmen will be assigned to these several commands, had not been decided at the hour of going to press.

Charges are also before them, against the President and Secretary Stanton for appointing Gen. Fremont to a responsible command after he had proved his gross incompetence by moving an army that, officially "could not be moved," and causing another great "skedaddle" among the Rebels in Missouri. It is thought as Lincoln in honest, but only innocently mistaken, he will be let off with a reprimand, but Stanton, who ought to know better, will be more severely dealt with.

## Important from Washington.

Tax Cincinnati Gazette has a special dispatch from Washington that General E. A. Hitchcock has accepted the appointment of Major General and that he is an anti-slavery man! Markets quiet! Conway excited!

## BANCROFT "AND" WASHINGTON.

The Cincinnati Gazette, under the head of "George Bancroft on Slavery" recently informed its readers that the Hon. George Bancroft, the historian, a life-long Democrat, delivered an address on the Life and Example of Washington, at the Cooper's Institute in New York, on the 22d February, in which he presented "Washington's views and his own on Slavery."

The opinions of Mr. Bancroft, thus coupled with Washington, would be thought of little value by the Gazette, except in his character of "life long Democrat." Will the Gazette please inform its readers in the rural districts whether this is the same George Bancroft who was once a Whig candidate for Congress in Connecticut, or some other place in that "patch of States," and did not get elected, and who afterwards became a Jackson man and was made Collector of Boston, Minister to England, &c.

But the following passage in the address is what we wish to speak of. He had said that Washington had expressed the wish "to see some plan adopted by which Slavery in this country may be abolished by law," and then he adds the following:—

"In conformity with these views the old Confederation of the United States, at a time when the Convention for framing our Constitution was in session, by a unanimous vote prohibited Slavery forever in all the territory that then belonged to the United States; and one of the very first acts of Washington as President was to approve a law by which that ordinance might 'continue to have full effect'."

This statement is not original with Mr. Bancroft, but has flourished in many Republican addresses and particularly the address from the Pittsburgh Convention, said to have been written by Henry J. Raymond, of New York. As it has now got into the hands of the "historian" it should be corrected.

The first impression intended to be made is this: that the Continental Congress had prohibited slavery in all the territory it then owned. The statement has literal truth, nothing more. The Congress, by resolution of Sept. 6th, 1789, had applied to all the States to make liberal cessions of their lands; and at the time the Ordinance of '87 was passed (13th July) the Congress had not received actual conveyance of Southern Territories. But the State of South Carolina on the 8th of March, 1787, had authorized the conveyance, and on the 9th of August following, the deed was made. Like releases were also expected from other Southern States.

The next impression sought to be made is that the Congress of the Union re-enacted and confirmed the prohibition of slavery in all the Territory then owned, and the act was approved by Washington with that intent.

The act referred to, is here given in full, with its date of August 7th, 1789:—"An act to provide for the government of the Territory North-West of the River Ohio:—

"WHEREAS, in order that the Ordinance of the United States, in Congress assembled, for the government of the Territory North-West of the river Ohio may continue to have full effect, it is requisite that certain provision should be made, so as to adapt the same to the present Constitution of the United States."

"Be it enacted, That in all cases, in which by the said ordinance, any information is to be given or communication made by the Governor of the said territory to the United States, in Congress assembled, or to any of their officers, it shall be the duty of the said Governor to give such information, to the President of the United States, and the President shall nominate, and by, and with the consent of, the Senate shall appoint all officers which by the said ordinance were to have been appointed by the United States in Congress assembled, and all officers so appointed shall be commissioned by him; and in all cases where the United States in Congress assembled, might by the said ordinance, revoke any commission or remove from any office, the President is hereby declared to have the same powers of revocation and removal."

The ordinance had provided that the Secretary of the Territory should return every six months to the Secretary of Congress, copies of all acts and proceedings of the Territory; and that the Governor should send to Congress the names of persons nominated to set in Legislative Council. These are the sole changes made by the act of Congress, approved by Washington which is held forth as a re-enactment of the prohibition of slavery. If this approval of Washington could by implication have such force that construction shall be placed on the later act of Congress approved by the President on the 2nd of April, 1790, which accepted from North Carolina another deed of cession, containing an express proviso, "that no regulations made, or to be made by Congress shall tend to inactivate slavery;" and which also provided "that the laws in force and use in the State of North Carolina, at the time of passing this act (Dec., 1789), shall be, and continue in full force, within the territory hereby ceded until the same shall be repealed or otherwise altered by the Legislative authority of said territory?" Did Mr. Bancroft make his statement without examination, or did he omit a part of what he saw?

For ourselves when seeking the opinions and example of Washington, we should prefer to have them pure without the Bancroft. The Gazette would doubtless prefer them mixed.

## Two Ways of Doing Business.

A LARGE number of excellent young men are now just starting in business in Urbana, and we will give them a word of advice:

We once knew a young man, who borrowed money of a friend to purchase a small stock of goods. He attended to his business himself and sold only for cash or to those he knew would pay when the bill was presented. This gave him cash to replenish his stock. The best houses sought his custom and he bought the best articles for the lowest price. Every dollar he could spare from this went to pay his debt. His stock was soon clear and as he bought cheap he could sell cheap, and those who expected to pay would buy of him, and soon every one favored him, and every one praised him. He was independent and respected.

We knew another young man of equal industry and honesty of purpose, who purchased a similar stock of goods on credit and was compelled to pay a third more on that account. He sold on credit and got much custom especially from those who never pay. This compelled him to replenish his stock on credit, and, of course he must buy of such as would sell to him and pay their prices. The bills payable were promptly presented, but the bills for goods sold were by no means as promptly paid. Then came the money lenders and this fatal ten or twelve per cent, and his friends must sign his notes. This interest eats up his profits; his credit begins to totter; and he must resort to a hungrier set of usurers and involve more friends. Then come the dodges and shifts, the unkept promises for next week; the sleepless nights and anxious days; the hopeless struggle with bankruptcy—the more fatal the longer it is protracted—and at last the crash—everything gone, friends ruined, and every one ready to denounce him as a knave.

We say, we knew a young man of each of these classes we might say we have known a hundred;—indeed, one or the other has been substantially the history of the business men of Urbana, and all other towns, heretofore; and on one or the other courses the young men now standing in their vacant places are entering.

The one course leads to certain respectability and competence; the other to certain ruin and disgrace.

Your young friends now stand at the fork of the roads: The one is rather up hill and little slow at first. The other is all the way down hill, and of course goes easy until you try to stop. *Facile decensus Acroni* Choose ye this day.

## A Good Movement.

It is proposed to raise the salary of our Prosecuting Attorney from \$600 to \$1000, for the following among other reasons:

1st. The Prosecutor for Clark County, who has three or four times as much to do, receives \$300 per annum, and it is a well settled rule of the Canons that the emolument of all officers in its gift, is to be in the inverse ratio of the duties; as the less one is occupied with his duties the more time he can devote to the Party and to Government generally. This rule applied to the present case will give from \$1000 to \$1500.

2d. From the ready manner in which our Prosecutor in conjunction with Judge Corwin disposed of the criminal business of the last term, it is thought long and expensive trials will hereafter be avoided and the witness and jury fees be saved to the county.

3d. As the taxes are already so heavy to defray the expenses of the war it is thought the small addition of say 50 cts. to each voter will be hardly felt.

We give below, from the Records, the business of the Prosecuting Attorney for the last term of Court, for which, under the present wiggly allowance he receives only \$200. from the tax payers, though there are *incidental* connected with this large criminal business which perhaps cost \$200 more:

State of Ohio } Indictment for Selling Liquor, three cases.  
vs. Dennis Cummings, )

This day the defendant being arraigned before the Court, and the Indictment being read to him, for plea says he is guilty in manner and form as he stands charged in said Indictment. It is therefore the sentence and judgment of the Court that the said defendant, for such his offence, do pay a fine of Five Dollars, and also the cost of this prosecution.

"It is ordered that Levi Geiger, Prosecuting Attorney of Champaign County, Ohio be allowed the sum of Six Hundred Dollars for the criminal business in this Court during this year, and that the same be paid to him as provided by Law; and that the Clerk certify a copy of this order to the Auditor of this county, who is hereby ordered to issue his order upon the Treasurer of this county for payment of said sum according to Law."

## John Bull's aims.

"It is impossible for us not to remember the example set us in the recognition of the independence of Hungary by the United States in 1849."—Speech of Earl of Shelburn in House of Lords.

"Barnside's force have landed in Western Virginia."—London Saturday Review.

"Alexander Hamilton was a distinguished delegate from Virginia in the convention that framed the Constitution of the United States."—London Quarterly Review.

"The Morrill Tariff, so called, was enacted in 1812."—Ibid.

ONLY ONE DOLLAR a year for the 'Union'!

## Our Washington Correspondence.

WASHINGTON, March 20th, 1862.

EDITOR 'UNION':—Your request to furnish you with a communication for your first issue was duly received, and I will lay before you readers such incidents and matters of interest, transpiring in and around the Capitol, as they may occur to me in my hasty writing; but, before I proceed, permit me to extend to you my best wishes for your happiness and prosperity in your new enterprise.

"Manassas is ours." The congratulation is rather stale, but the enormous price paid for its purchase makes it the more pleasing and establishes it as a text for harping of scribbles for six months to come. Every day brings from our garrison additional particulars of the evacuation, all of which confirm that the place was evacuated in the greatest possible haste and disorder. The scouts are continually bringing into camp large quantities of guns, cartridge boxes, knapsacks, haversacks, canteens, and equipments of every description; Medical and commissary stores were left undisturbed, and the general confusion and disorder which prevails in every encampment shows that they were panic stricken and in their retreat issued the order of "every man for himself and the devil take the hindmost."

It is generally conceded that the strategic movements made in this vicinity compelled them to leave their position and construct a new line of defence, and it is also positively ascertained they have only been waiting during the past three months, for the advance of our army to abandon Manassas. Be this as it may, there has certainly been a greater loss of life in camp by diseases produced in inactivity than we would have sustained in a bayonet charge upon the fortifications. While the Rebels were playing their game of deception, only keeping a sufficient force there to keep up appearances, we have been spending our time and energy in preparing to bring an overwhelming force to bear upon their empty works. When secession was first openly and boldly talked of, the rebels' hue and cry was, "let us alone." The army of the Potomac being rather quakerish in their inclinations have complied with this request most admirably. But as it is we have only gained a respite: the stand will be made at some point, where we will find their preparations for defence are extensive, and we must be prepared to meet that stern resistance we encountered at Forts Henry and Donaldson, when we attempt to penetrate their lines formed in front of their so styled Capitol. They have the same material out of which to select their most able commanders, give them the flower of their army, and make preparations upon a larger and more formidable scale to offer resistance to the progress of the Federal Army at this point than any other.

When we reflect upon all the suggestions which force themselves upon the mind while considering this subject, we readily arrive at the conclusion that Gen. McClellan has a great battle to fight before he forces the Rebels to fly from Richmond. The army of the Potomac is composed of true and unflinching men: men who are fully aware of all the dangers attending their enterprise; and having never needed themselves to meet the enemy, are only waiting for their commander to lead them on to victory. If we are permitted to judge of Gen. McClellan's future course by his address issued to the army last week, we may rest satisfied that he will not permit the establishment of another such stronghold, but push boldly forward, driving his enemy before him as the wind drives the chaff, and in his next dash strike terror to the very heart of rebellion, and thus place the last link in the tail of this monstrous anaconda which has retarded so much to the elevation of his great name. So mote it be.

The City is now thronged with persons representing their interests in special articles upon which a tax is to be levied. While Congress is deliberating upon this subject, they are taking into consideration all representations made to them in regard to the injustice of placing a heavy tax upon flour and articles of a like character which will impose hardships and suffering upon the poor, depriving them of many luxuries and even necessities of life, and are preparing the bill so that the burden may fall upon all, in proportion to their ability to bear it. It is said the bill will be a model of legislation and reflect great credit upon the Committee of Ways and Means, its originators.

The Secretary of the Treasury has decided to have the signatures upon the new issue of Treasury Notes engraved, thereby dispensing with the services of about one hundred clerks during the time occupied in signing and also facilitating the business very largely. They will be ready, it is supposed, by the first of April.

Secretary Stanton is enforcing his order, prohibiting the publication of news in regard to the movements of the Army without the permission of the Commanding General. The Sunday Morning Chronicle contained dispatches from Gen. Banks' column, giving all the particulars of his movements up to late Saturday night, and on Monday morning the Editor together with the office and its contents were seized by the Government. The Editor was placed in "duress vile" by a file of regulars until the Provost Marshal ordered a hearing, when upon a proper explanation of his *Locof*, he was released and his office restored.

The fears that Gen. Barnside would be overpowered by numbers and captured, have at last been dispelled by the announcement of his having achieved a most brilliant victory in the capture of Newburn, N. C. The news was received in the City yesterday and caused the wildest excitement. The importance of his victory can not be over estimated. Newburn is situated at the confluence of the Nure and Trent Rivers, and is also the terminus of the Goldsboro R. R., there connecting with the Beaufort and Richmond R. R. By this movement Gen. Barnside has completely isolated Beaufort, and placed it at his mercy. The rebels will perhaps offer a short resistance but will be unable to hold out long. We may therefore look out for the announcement of its surrender, together with the notorious pirate Steamer Nashville, unless they destroyed it, which has been lying in that harbor since she ran the blockade in January.

Truly Yours, NOB.

## A VISIT TO THE MONITOR.

A VISITOR to the Monitor writes as follows:—

The crew say, "We fear nothing on land or water, and are ready, whenever the order is given, to proceed direct to Norfolk or Richmond."

THE SPEED OF THE MONITOR.—The information has gained ground that the "Merrimac" is superior in speed to the "Monitor," and that if the former class also could run past her and go out to sea. This, I was assured, is an entire mistake. The speed of the "Merrimac" is not over five knots an hour, whilst that of the "Monitor" is about seven. On putting the question to one of her gunners as to their relative speed, and the ability of the "Merrimac" to run away from the "Monitor," he replied, "he would like to see her attempt it. She would then be at our mercy, and by following close in her wake, we would soon cripple, if not destroy her rudder and propeller." A more enthusiastic and confident set of men never manned a ship, and they all express an anxiety that they will soon have another opportunity to meet her.

INTENTION OF THE TOWER.—The guns set side and side in the center of the tower, and are intended to be fired simultaneously, the close proximity of the muzzles of the two guns enabling the two balls to strike the sides of the enemy in similar proximity to each other. The moment the guns are fired two immense pillars of steel, on the inside, about six feet long, two feet in width, and one foot in thickness, slide before the portholes, completely closing them and protecting the gunners from the balls of the enemy.

EFFECTS OF THE SHOT.—There are marks on the tower and hull of about twenty balls, and some of them seem to have struck the tower fair and square, with no more apparent effect than could be produced by the blow of a sledge hammer. The paint is rubbed off, and if re-painted, it would be difficult to discover where most of the shots struck. The gunners of the enemy seem, however, to have early abandoned the attempt to damage the tower, though most of their balls even there were aimed at the port-holes, three striking in close proximity. Two of the six or seven marks on the tower are said to have been accidental shots from the guns of the "Minnesota."

The greater part of the shot marks are on the edge of the hull, which, it should be remembered, does not rise more than twelve inches out of the water. They seem to have been under the impression that there must be a weak spot underneath the water line, and they hammered away all round, but here too, the invulnerability of the Monitor was equally great, and the indentations are only to the extent of a fraction of an inch. There is a small fracture of the edge of the iron at one point, which only seems to show its great strength at a point which might be supposed to be weakest.

The shot that struck the square pilot-house did little more than knock the cement out. Had the pilot-house been round instead of square, as it is now proposed to make it, the ball would have glanced and lost half of its force, and failed to injure the eyes of the gallant commander. He is, however, I am pleased to learn, rapidly recovering. The retreating of the Merrimac from the contest with her insignificant antagonist, is not to be wondered at, when the exercise of all the power she possessed, for five hours, had done little more than defeat her point.

The attempt of the "Merrimac" to run her down left no marks on the iron, except some splinters from her timbers, which are sticking to a nut and screw on her hull. She struck her precisely amidships, directly opposite the center of the tower, and this experiment having so entirely failed, it was evident that no hopes could be entertained from its repetition.

WHAT THE GENRES SAY.—I had a conversation with the gunners, and they are thoroughly satisfied that at least three of their balls passed through the iron roof of the monitor, and they think that if they had used the wrought iron balls they could have sunk the monitor rebel. They had positive orders from Captain Dahlgren not to use them until they were first experimented with, and none were used, the impression being that they would be liable to burst the guns.

## Mason in Parliament.

THE Person who attracted much attention at the opening of Parliament was the Southern Commissioner Mr. Mason, who had a seat in one of the side galleries. Singularly enough, his next neighbor was a negro of the deepest dye, one of the Haytian Ephyrae, I believe; at all events he must have been of note to get a place in that exclusive locality; necessity brings people into strong companionship.—*Correspondence of the Manchester (England) Weekly Express and Review.*

## The Canons.

THE following truthful picture of the political caucus in this Country is from a French writer in the *Revue des Deux Mondes*:

"They are filled with briefless lawyers, doctors without patients, with schemers and place hunters, who devote themselves to the triumph of the party in order to be elected to some little salaried place. The immense majority of the citizens have no other alternative than to accept their nominations as they stand, or renounce the exercise of their vote." Wonder if he was ever in Ohio?

## A Good Law.

WE notice a bill has been introduced into the Legislature making it a penal offence to advertise certain medicines which it has always been a felony to use. We have before now seen just such advertisements in conspicuous proximity to a column of "Sunday Readings."

MASSACHUSETTS furnishes as many Generals for the rebel army as either Alabama or Mississippi, one more than Texas, as many as Louisiana, Arkansas and Missouri, all together, and lacking one half as many as South Carolina. Of course these men were citizens of the South at the breaking out of the rebellion.

Tax attention of the reader is directed to the letter of our regular correspondent, "Non," from Washington.

## The Constructor of the Monitor.

As many of our readers wish to know who Mr. Ericsson (the inventor of the iron-clad battery, Monitor, which did such efficient service at the recent naval engagement in Hampton Roads) is, we have compiled the following short biographical sketch of that distinguished person. John Ericsson was born in 1803, in the province of Vermland, among the iron mountains of Sweden. His father being engaged in mechanical pursuits, the son early evinced a remarkable taste for the same occupation, and before he was ten years of age he constructed several mechanical contrivances which would have been creditable to older heads. In 1814 he was appointed to a cadetship in the corps of engineers in the Swedish army, and while in that position was several times made superior of important trusts, although several officers outranked him both in age and position. In 1826 he visited England, and proceeded to construct a number of new engines of his own invention, which met with wonderful success. In the fall of 1829, the Liverpool and Manchester Railway having offered a prize for the best locomotive engine, to be tested on their road, Mr. Ericsson constructed the Novelty steam engine, which started along at the rate of fifty miles an hour, to the emboldened admiration and applause of the spectators. He afterwards constructed several steam fire-engines, which proved to be successful inventions. He was the first to apply to marine engines centrifugal boilers, using anthracite coal. Mr. Ericsson emigrated to this country in 1839, and his first great achievement was the building of the United States steam frigate Princeton, the first vessel that steam was ever introduced into with the wheels below the water line. His success was so remarkable that the French Government engaged him to plan the French frigate *Pomone*, of 50 guns, which also proved a success. He next undertook the planning and invention of the steamer *Ericsson*, and although it did not meet the expectations of the builder, it was a success. He next determined to construct a battery which would be useful in naval warfare. On the 5th of October he signed the contract for the construction of the Monitor, and on the 21st of December, being a period of two months and eight days, the steam machinery and propeller were put into operation, and on the one hundred and first working day she was launched. The rest of the history of the Monitor is so well known to our readers that its recapitulation here would be unnecessary.—*N. Y. Post.*

## "Dying in the Last Ditch."

THE millions of rebellion who are everlastingly talking of dying in the last ditch, and who are running the earth over to find the last ditch, not willing to lie and die in the first one, can find considerable food for reflection in the conduct of our men; say for instance, John Davis, of Barnstable's expedition, who, in the taking of Elizabeth City, perilled his life by covering an open powder barrel with his person, as a hot shell exploded over him; of Matthew Tenney, and his companions, of the frigate Cumberland, who kept working at the guns after the vessel had begun to sink; in the conduct of Capt. McCrae, of the Fort Craig, New Mexico, battle, who sat down calmly and quietly on one of his guns, and, with a revolver in his hand, refusing to fly or desert his post, fought to the last, and gloriously died the death of a hero; the last man by his gun, in the conduct of Sigel and his men, who, surrounded on all sides cut their way through overpowering numbers and conquered; "too numerous to mention." Our men say little of ditches first or last, but they are ready for death for the sake of the "Old Flag," "God, and Liberty." As Lieut. Worden said to his friend Wyse, when he called to see him after the conflict of the Monitor with the *Merrimac*, the blood gushing from his eyes all over his face, faint exclaiming, "If we are conquered I am willing to die," so our men say, "Let me fall, but let the cause prevail!"—*W. C. Advocate.*

## Gen. Barnside and Gen. McClellan.

GEN. BRUNSER, far away from the seething factions of Washington, and intent only upon the destruction of the enemy, sits down after a bloody, glorious and decisive victory, and giving a few outlines of his operations, reserving the details for another report, remarks:—

"I beg to say to the General Commanding that I have endeavored to carry out the very minute instructions given me by him, before leaving Annapolis, and thus far events have been signally coincident with his expectations. I only hope that we may in future be able to carry out in detail the remaining plans of the campaign. The only thing I have to regret is the delay caused by the elements."

This testimony from Barnside "goes to the right spot," and will produce a feeling of satisfaction throughout the country. There is every reason to believe that Gen. McClellan has not confirmed his "minute instructions" to Gen. Barnside, but that other Generals, whose victories have elevated the country, have had the benefit of them.—*Cin. Commercial.*

## The Battle of Winchester.

WASHINGTON, March 25.—General Shields has received a dispatch from Major General Banks, dated five miles beyond Strasburg: "The enemy are still in retreat, and our forces in hot pursuit. The loss of the rebels must have been enormous. They have abandoned wagons along the road, filled with dead and dying. The houses on the route are found crowded with the wounded and dead. The dwellings in the towns adjacent to the battle-field of Sunday, were also found filled with the wounded. The inhabitants aided the rebels in carrying off their wounded, during the day, and burying them as quick as dead. Our artillery makes terrible havoc among the enemy, in their flight, and the rout bids fair to be one of the most dreadful of the war."

## SPEAKING OF THE articles abandoned by the rebels at Manassas, a correspondent says:—

One thing seems significant: Tracts and religious books are plenty, and soiled and mutilated testaments are scattered thickly everywhere; but not a plug of tobacco or a drop of whisky was left behind.